

Staff Public Workshop

Informal Draft Statewide NPDES Pest Control Permit
October 16 & 21, 2025

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Division of Water Quality

Workshop Logistics

- This workshop is provided as:
 - Interactive Zoom meeting
- The workshop includes:
 - Staff presentation
 - Question and answer session
- Participants will be able to ask questions after the staff presentation
- This workshop is being recorded
 - Workshop presentation will be made available on the Pest Control Permit webpage; the workshop recording will be made available upon request.



Asking Questions



Ask questions

- Click the “Q&A” icon in the Zoom menu and type your question, or
- Raise your virtual hand to ask questions

Staff will

- Respond to questions from the “Q&A” box, or
- Unmute participants with “Raised” hands

Agenda

1

Overview of
existing four
pesticide
discharge
permits

2

Summary of
proposed
informal draft
permit

3

Next steps and
project schedule

4

Response to
questions

Existing Statewide NPDES Permits

1. Aquatic Weed & Algae Control (Order 2013-0002-DWQ, as amended)
2. Vector Control (Order 2016-0039-DWQ, as amended)
3. Aquatic Animal Invasive Species Control (Order 2016-0040-DWQ)
4. Spray Applications by the CA Department of Food and Agriculture (Order 2016-0041-DWQ)

Each permit regulates the point source discharge of residual pesticides to waters of the United States.

Need for Reissuance



All four permits expired



Improve clarity and
consistency for
dischargers



Update regulatory
requirements and
monitoring triggers

Overview of Draft Pest Control Permit



Consolidate Existing Permits Into One Statewide General Permit

Existing Permits

Aquatic Weed &
Algal Control

Vector Control

Aquatic Animal
Invasive Species
Control

Spray Applications



Consolidated Permit

Pest Control Use Patterns Covered:

- ❖ Aquatic Weed & Algae Control
- ❖ Mosquito & Other Flying Insect Vector Control
- ❖ Aquatic Animal Invasive Species Control
- ❖ Agricultural Pest Control
- ❖ Terrestrial Rodent Control (NEW)

Structure of the Informal Draft Permit

Section Number	Section Title	Pest Control Use Pattern Applicability
1	Introduction	All
2.1	Regulatory Coverage	All
2.2	Discharger Eligibility	All
2.3	Pesticidal Active Ingredients Covered	Separated by pest control use pattern
2.4	Non-pesticidal Products Covered	Aquatic Weed and Algae Management
2.5	Adjuvants	All
2.6	CA Department of Pesticide Regulation Registration Exemptions	All
2.7	Temporary Coverage of Non-Pesticidal Products for Experimental Use	All
2.8	Requirements for Continuation of Existing Regulatory Coverage	All
2.9	Requirements for New Regulatory Coverage	All
2.10	Requirements for Termination of Regulatory Coverage	All
2.11	Exclusion to Regulatory Coverage	All

Structure of the Informal Draft Permit (*continued*)

Section Number	Section Title	Pest Control Use Pattern Applicability
3	Findings	All
4	Discharge Prohibitions	All
5	Effluent Limitations	All
6	Receiving Water Monitoring Triggers	Separated by pest control use pattern
7.1	Public Noticing Requirements	All
7.2	Application Schedule	All
7.3	Application Plan	Separated by pest control use pattern
7.4	Pest Control Application Log	All
8	Emergency Use Provisions	All
9	Monitoring and Reporting Program Requirements	All
10	Provisions	All
11	Adverse or Toxic Effect Incident Notification Requirements	All

Structure of the Informal Draft Permit (*continued*)

Section Number	Attachment Title
Attachment C	Monitoring and Reporting Program
Attachment C1	Visual, Physical, and Chemical Monitoring Requirements for Aquatic Weed and Algae Management
Attachment C2	Visual Monitoring Requirements for Mosquito and Other Flying Insect Vector Control Management
Attachment C3	Visual, Physical, and Chemical Monitoring Requirements for Aquatic Animal Invasive Species Management
Attachment C4	Visual, Physical, and Chemical Monitoring Requirements for Agricultural Pest Management
Attachment C5	Visual, Physical, and Chemical Monitoring Requirements for Terrestrial Rodent Management
Attachment C6	Visual, Physical, and Chemical Monitoring Requirements for Non-Pesticidal Products for Experimental Use

*Attachments A, B, D, E, F, G, H, and I are under development

Proposed Regulation of Rodenticide Applications

Section 1 of Informal Draft

Added regulation of rodenticides to control terrestrial rodent pests
(*New Condition*)

Request from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for eradication of invasive mice on offshore islands

- Aerial applications of rodenticides may result in residual pesticides deposits to a water of the United States



Proposed Regulation of Rodenticide Applications

Section 2.6.2 of Informal Draft

Second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides only allowed under the following situations per CA Food and Agriculture Code Section 12978.7(f):

1. Protection of public health when applications conducted by any government agency or declaration by public health officer
2. Protection of water supply infrastructure and facilities
3. Protection of public health when conducted by a mosquito control district
4. **Eradication of non-native species on offshore islands**
5. Protection of threatened or endangered species
6. Research

Regulation of New Pesticidal Active Ingredients

Section 2.3 of Informal Draft



Aquatic Weed and Algae Management

- Florpyrauxifen-benzyl
- Triclopyr choline
- Blue 9
- Yellow 23

Mosquito and Other Flying Insect Vector Control Management

- Abamectin
- Fenpropathrin

Terrestrial Rodent Management

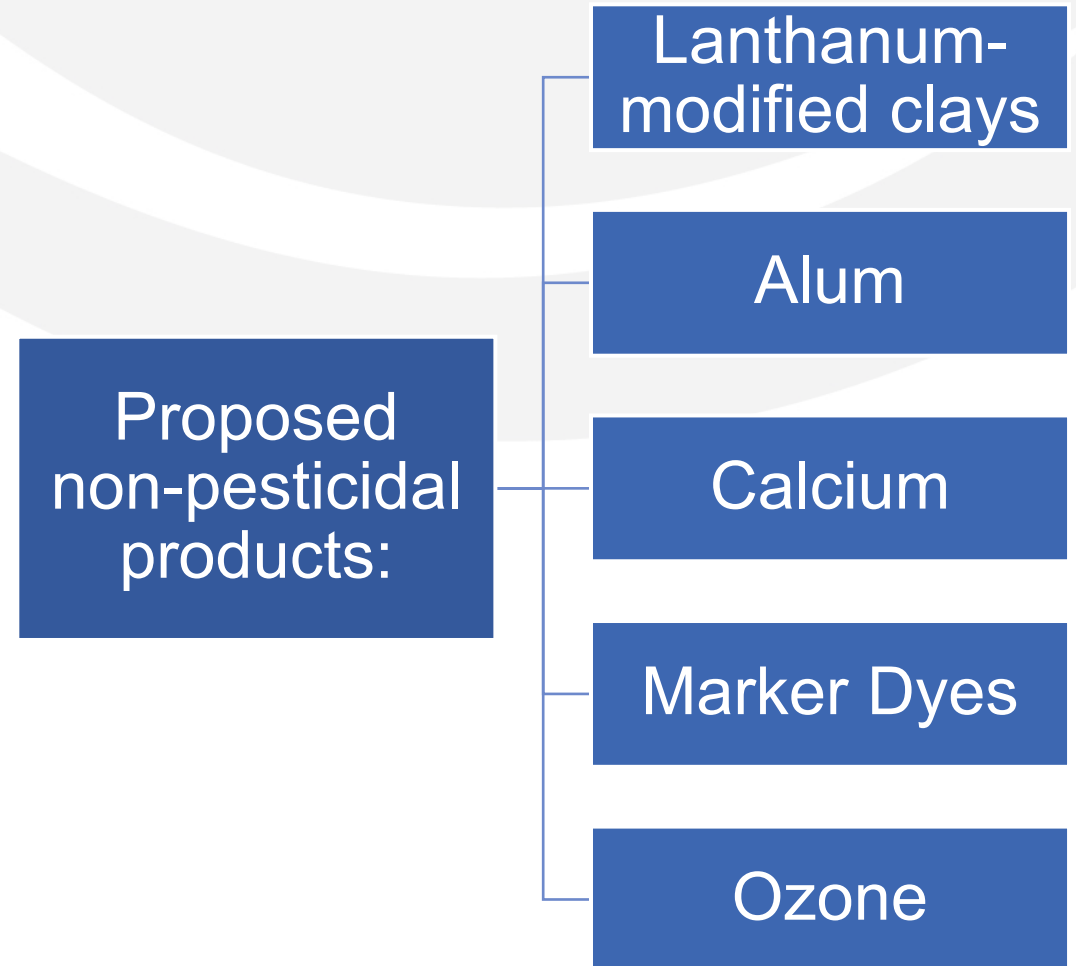
- Brodifacoum

Regulation of Non-Pesticidal Products

Section 2.4 of Informal Draft

Proposed expansion of permit coverage to regulate non-pesticidal products

- For aquatic weed and algae management only (*New Condition*).



Expand Permit Coverage for Adjuvants

Section 2.5 of Informal Draft

Adjuvants are ingredients that are mixed with aquatic pesticides prior to an application event in order to improve its performance.

- Existing permit:
 - regulates adjuvants represented by the surrogate nonylphenol
- Proposed permit:
 - regulates additional adjuvant products meeting the permit requirements

Approval of Other Adjuvants (*continued*)

Section 2.5 of Informal Draft

1. Approved for use and registered by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation
2. Clearly designated for use in aquatic settings per the manufacturer's pesticide product label
3. Approved for use by the Deputy Director of Water Quality

Applicable receiving water monitoring triggers and monitoring and reporting requirements will be specified in the Notice of Applicability.

Authorization of Temporary Application of Non-Pesticidal Products

Section 2.7 of Informal Draft

Allows the use of non-pesticidal products to research efficacy

120-day temporary coverage period

- Final summary of findings due within 60 days of termination
- Products shall not contain pesticidal active ingredients or adjuvants registered by the U.S. EPA or California's Department of Pesticide Regulation
- Products shall not be used concurrently with pesticide products

Continuation of Existing Regulatory Coverage

Section 2.8 of Informal Draft

Existing permittees under current Permits must submit a new application package at least 90 days prior to the effective date of the reissued General Permit.

- Not required to submit a new application fee.

The regulatory coverage will be administratively terminated upon the effective date if the discharger does not submit a new application package 90 days prior to effective date.

Proposed Requirements for Obtaining Regulatory Coverage

Section 2.9 of Informal Draft

New applicants must submit:

- Electronic Notice of Intent
 - May apply to multiple regions
 - May include multiple pest control use patterns
- Application Plan
- Application Fee

Public Comment Period for Applications

Section 2.9.4 of Informal Draft

Reduce comment period - new and amended applications

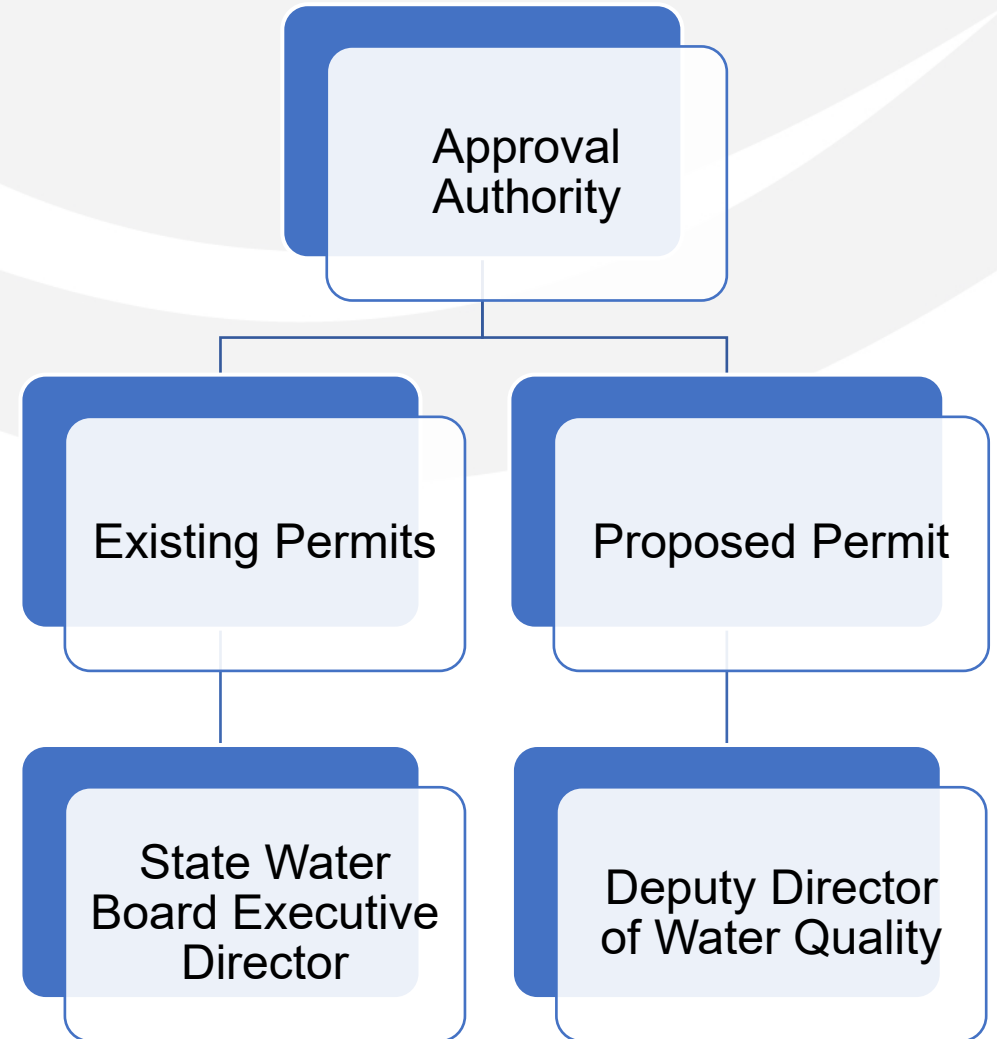
- Existing permits:
 - 30-days
- Proposed permit:
 - 14-days

Proposed Process for Permit Amendments

Section 3.3 of Informal Draft

General permit may be amended to:

- Add new active ingredients; or
- Consider requests for State Implementation Policy (SIP) and Ocean Plan exceptions



Electronic Submittal of Applications and Annual Reports

Section 4.2 of Attachment C of Informal Draft

Requires electronic submittal through the California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) database of:

- Notices of Intent
- Annual Reports

Changes to “End-Result” Limitations

In response to March 4, 2025, *City and County of San Francisco v. U.S. EPA* Supreme Court ruling that the Clean Water Act does not authorize “end-result” provisions within NPDES permits

Change “End-Result” Receiving Water Limitations to:

- Receiving Water Monitoring Triggers, and
- Best Management Practice Requirements

Updated Receiving Water Monitoring Triggers

Section 6 of Informal Draft

Aquatic Weed and Algae Management

Active Ingredient	Existing Monitoring Trigger	Proposed Monitoring Trigger
Flumioxazin	0.23 mg/L	0.023 mg/L
Imazapyr	11.2 mg/L	0.091 mg/L
Triclopyr Triethlamine	13 mg/L	9.1 mg/L

New Receiving Water Monitoring Triggers

Section 6 of Informal Draft

Aquatic Weed and Algae Management

Active Ingredient	Instantaneous Maximum Monitoring Trigger
Florpyrauxifen-benzyl	40.3 µg/L
Triclopyr Choline	11.7 mg/L

Updated Receiving Water Monitoring Triggers

Section 6 of Informal Draft

Mosquito and Other Flying Insect Vector Control

Active Ingredient	Existing Monitoring Trigger	Proposed Monitoring Trigger
Permethrin	0.0019 µg/L	0.0005 µg/L
Piperonyl Butoxide (PBO)	49 µg/L	33 µg/L
Pyrethrin	0.14 µg/L	0.0005 µg/L

New Receiving Water Monitoring Triggers

Section 6 of Informal Draft

Mosquito and Other Flying Insect Vector Control

Active Ingredient	Instantaneous Maximum Monitoring Trigger
Abamectin	0.024 µg/L
Fenpropathrin	0.025 µg/L

Updated Receiving Water Monitoring Triggers

Section 6 of Informal Draft

Agricultural Pest Management

Active Ingredient	Existing Monitoring Trigger	Proposed Monitoring Trigger
Acetamiprid	6.6 µg/L	0.41 µg/L
Carbaryl	2.53 µg/L	0.085 µg/L
Clyfluthrin	0.00022 µg/L	0.000018 µg/L
Dinotefuran	79 µg/L	5.78 µg/L
Imidacloprid	3.8 µg/L	0.207 µg/L
Lambda Cyhalothrin	0.00041 µg/L	0.00049 µg/L
Triclopyr Butoxyethyl Ester	36 µg/L	24 µg/L

New Receiving Water Monitoring Triggers

Section 6 of Informal Draft

Terrestrial Rodent Management

Active Ingredient	Instantaneous Maximum Monitoring Trigger
Brodifacoum	2.0 µg/L

Application Plan Changes

Section 7.3 of Informal Draft

Added the following Best Management Practices in place of narrative receiving water limitations considered as “end-result” requirements:

- Measures to minimize water quality impacts from decaying aquatic vegetation
- Measures to prevent the discharge of pesticides and non-pesticide products from adversely impacting non-target species

Application Plan Changes (*continued*)

Section 7.3 of Informal Draft

Additional Best Management Practices

- Protocols to cease pesticide or non-pesticidal product applications during wind speeds greater than 15 miles per hour.
- Specific Best Management Practices for each applicable spray mode used (e.g., aerial spray, truck spray, drone spray, hand spray).
- Measurable action thresholds, info on breeding, and available surveillance data

Emergency Pest Control Coverage

Section 8 of Informal Draft

Allows for a 90-day coverage for pest-related emergencies documented through a public declaration by a state agency or local government.

Emergency may be based on significant risks to:

- human health,
- economy, or
- impacts on endangered or threatened species, beneficial organisms, or the environment.

Expedites permitting process by reduced review and public comment period.

Monitoring Requirements

Attachment C1 of Informal Draft

Aquatic Weed and Algae Management Monitoring Requirement Updates

Visual Observations – Harmful Algal Bloom incident reporting

Sampling requirements for:

- Free reactive phosphorus & total phosphorus (when treating an algal bloom).
- Free lanthanum & total lanthanum (sediment)
- Free alum & total alum
- Reduced sampling frequency for imazamox

All other monitoring requirements remain unchanged

Existing Monitoring Requirements

Attachment C2, C3, and C4 of Informal Draft

Monitoring requirements remain unchanged for:

- Mosquito and Other Flying Insect Vector Control
- Aquatic Animal Invasive Species Control
- Agricultural Spray Applications

Monitoring Requirements

Attachment C5 of Informal Draft

New Terrestrial Rodent Management Monitoring Requirements

Visual Observations – monitoring area description, appearance of waterway, and weather conditions

Sampling requirements for:

- Temperature
- Brodifacoum
- Dissolved Oxygen

Monitoring Requirements

Attachment C6 of Informal Draft

New Non-Pesticidal Products for Experimental Use Monitoring Requirements

Visual Observations – monitoring area description, appearance of waterway, and weather conditions

Sampling requirements for:

- Temperature
- pH
- Turbidity
- Electrical Conductivity
- Non-pesticide product ingredient
- Dissolved oxygen

Project Timeline and Next Steps



Project Timeline

2023-2024

- Preliminary outreach
- Prepare informal draft permit

Sep. 2025	Issue informal draft permit for public comments
Oct. 2025	Staff public workshops for informal draft
May 2026	Informal high-level response to comments
May 2026	Issue <u>formal</u> draft permit for public comments
June 2026	Staff public workshops for draft permit
July 2026	Board hearing to receive oral comments
Nov. 2026	Issue response to comments and proposed permit
Feb. 2027	State Water Board consideration of adoption

Submission of Written Comments



Electronic by email

Submit your written comments to:

commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

Subject Line:

“Comment Letter – Informal Draft Pest
Control Permit”



Physical copy

**State Water Resources Control Board
Attention: Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board**

By Mail:

P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

In-person Drop-Off:

1001 I Street, 24th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

Comments due: 12:00 pm on Wednesday, November 12, 2025

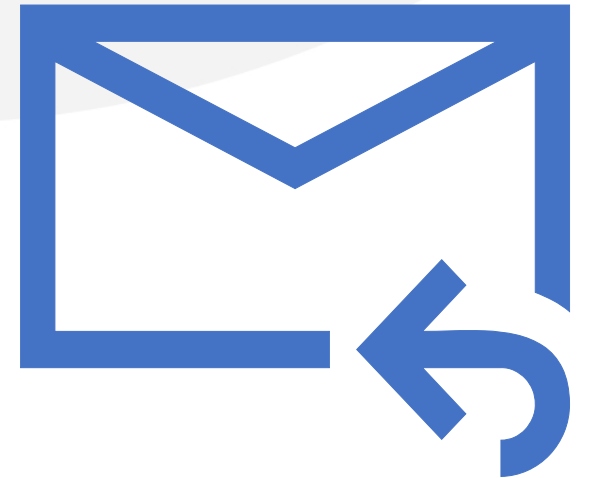
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION

Informal Draft Permit available at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/npdes/pesticides/pest_control.html

Subscribe to GovDelivery e-mail list for updated email notifications:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/



For questions, email DWQ-pesticidesNPDES@waterboards.ca.gov

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